

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An RF base station apparatus, comprising:

first wireless RF communication equipment; and

wireless optical communication equipment coupled to the first wireless RF communication equipment,

the wireless optical communication equipment being adapted to communicate signals between the first wireless RF communication equipment and ~~other~~ processing and control equipment ~~of the RF base station~~, and

the first wireless RF communication equipment and the ~~other~~ processing and control equipment being non-co-located.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first wireless RF communication equipment is at a significant distance from the other equipment of the RF base station.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the significant distance is at least ten meters.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
the first wireless RF communication equipment is adapted to receive signals that conform to a predefined wireless communication standard; and

the signals that the wireless optical communication equipment is adapted to communicate represent information that conforms to the predefined wireless communication standard.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first wireless RF communication equipment comprises an RF antenna.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the first wireless RF communication equipment further comprises an RF-module.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the wireless optical communication equipment comprises a telescope.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) An RF base station, comprising:
an RF antenna;
first wireless optical communication equipment coupled to ~~[[the]]~~ an RF communication equipment;
a processing and control section ~~of equipment of the RF base station~~,
the processing and control section ~~of equipment~~ being at a significant distance from the RF antenna;

second wireless optical communication equipment coupled to the processing and control section ~~of equipment of the RF base station~~; and

the first wireless optical communication equipment being adapted to communicate with the second wireless optical communication equipment.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein:

the RF antenna is adapted to receive signals that conform to a predefined wireless communication standard; and

the signals that the wireless optical communication equipment is adapted to communicate represent information that conforms to the predefined wireless communication standard.

12. (Original) The RF base station of claim 10, further comprising:

at least one other RF antenna; and

at least a third wireless optical communication equipment, each being adapted to communicate with the second wireless optical communication equipment; one wireless optical communication equipment being coupled to each RF antenna.

13. (Original) The RF base station of claim 10, wherein the significant distance is at least ten meters.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The RF base station of claim 10, wherein:

the first wireless optical communication equipment comprises a first telescope; and

the second wireless optical communication equipment comprises a second telescope.

17. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising the steps of:
receiving an RF signal at an RF antenna of an RF base station;
modulating a signal representing the RF signal onto an optical signal;
and
transmitting the optical signal by wireless optical communication equipment to a processing and control section ~~of equipment~~ of the RF base station, the processing and control section being at a significant distance from the RF antenna.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

receiving the optical signal on second wireless optical communication equipment of the RF base station,

the second wireless optical communication equipment coupled to the processing and control section ~~of equipment~~ of the RF base station; and

obtaining the signal representing the RF signal from the optical signal.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ method of claim 17, wherein:

signals received by the RF antenna conform to a predefined wireless communication standard; and

the signals transmitted by the wireless optical communication equipment represent information that conforms to the predefined wireless communication standard.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of processing the RF signal to produce a signal that can be modulated onto an optical signal, wherein this step is performed prior to the modulating step.

23. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the wireless optical communication equipment comprises a telescope.

24. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising the steps of:
obtaining a signal at a processing and control section of equipment of
[[the]] an RF base station, the processing and control section of equipment
being at a significant distance from an RF antenna;

modulating a signal representing the signal onto an optical signal; and
transmitting the optical signal over wireless optical communication
equipment to [[an]] the RF antenna of the RF base station.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, further comprising the steps
of:

receiving the optical signal on second wireless optical communication
equipment of the RF base station, the second wireless optical communication
equipment coupled to the RF antenna; and

obtaining the signal from the optical signal;

obtaining an RF signal from the signal;

transmitting the RF signal on the RF antenna.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the wireless optical communication equipment comprises a telescope.

29. (Currently Amended) An RF base station ~~apparatus~~, comprising:

an RF antenna ~~of the RF base station apparatus~~; and

a telescope coupled to the RF antenna, the telescope being adapted to communicate signals between the RF antenna and ~~other~~ processing and control equipment of the RF base station ~~apparatus~~,

the RF antenna being at a significant distance from the ~~other~~ processing and control equipment of the RF base station, and wherein

signals received by the RF antenna conform to a predefined wireless communication standard, and

the signals communicated by the telescope represent information that conforms to the predefined wireless communication standard.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the significant distance is at least ten meters.